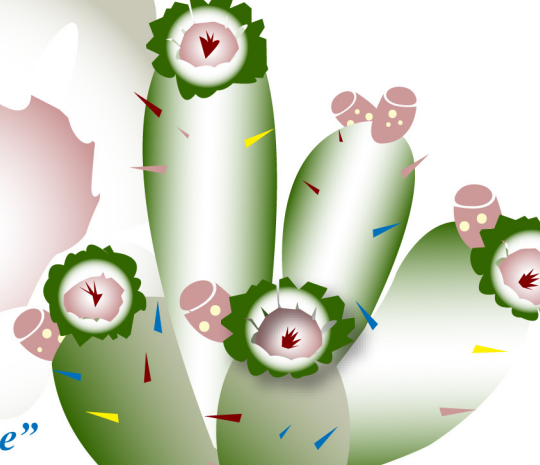




# Cactus Chronicle

*“Glendale –  
Proud to be the home of Luke Air Force Base”*



Councilmember Phil Lieberman, Glendale Arizona

January 21, 2011



**Glendale Chocolate Affaire.**  
Chocoholics unite February 4-6,  
as the Glendale Chocolate Affaire takes  
over downtown Glendale to create a  
chocolate-lover's dream! [Read more.](#)

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Meeting - Master Plan Update.** Glendale residents are invited to attend the Glendale Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting at 7 p.m., Monday, Jan. 24 at the Glendale Adult Center, 5970 W Brown St. The commission will be presented with an update on the preliminary recommendations and strategies for the updated parks and recreation master plan.

Glendale is in the process of updating the existing Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The current master plan was adopted by City Council February 2002 and since that time many changes have occurred within Glendale and the surrounding areas. The master plan identifies community priorities for recreation and park facilities along with outlining a plan of action. This meeting will provide the commission and the public additional information on the progress of the Master Plan Update.

Glendale residents' input during the planning process has been critical to help establish priorities for current and future parks and recreation services, programs and facilities offered within Glendale. For more information, [click here](#) or call Glendale Parks and Recreation at 623-930-2820.

**Glendale University 101 Spring 2011 Semester.** Sign up now for the Glendale University 101 spring semester! This free educational program, offered in partnership with Cox Communications, is for Glendale residents and business owners who want to learn more about the city of Glendale and how it operates. Each class highlights key functions of the city, such as police and fire, finance and budget, community services, public services and more. Classes begin on Monday, March 7 when participants will meet Glendale's Mayor and City Council. Please [click here](#) for more information about this 10-week program. The last day for registration is Feb 28.

**Traffic Advisory.** The Arizona Department of Transportation is constructing 30 miles of High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes on Loop 101 (Agua Fria Freeway) between Interstate 10 and Tatum Boulevard. In addition, crews will install median lighting, widen three bridges, improve traffic flow and capacity and install overhead message boards on Loop 101.

Construction begins this weekend with a full closure between State Route 51 (Piestewa Freeway) and 19th Avenue. There will be other full closures and potential freeway and crossroad restrictions as part of the HOV lane construction. Receive project e-news updates by registering at [www.ValleyFreeways.com](http://www.ValleyFreeways.com) then select the "e-mail alert" button under the map on the home page. If you have any questions or concerns, call 602-712-7355. Construction is anticipated to be complete in late 2011.

**Help Prevent Copper Thefts.** Glendale's park system is taking a hit. In the last few weeks copper thieves have pulled wire out of light posts, stolen solar lighting batteries and stolen backflow preventers from city parks. These thefts have occurred at a variety of parks throughout Glendale costing the city valuable resources.

The Glendale Parks and Recreation Department is asking residents to keep an "Eagle Eye" on our parks. Park users who witness any suspicious activity are asked to call the police department at 9-1-1 or notify the Parks and Recreation Department immediately at 623-930-2820.

Please keep an eye on the type of vehicles entering parks. Only city of Glendale and Maricopa Landscape utility vehicles are allowed in parks. Other utility vehicles should be considered suspicious. Thieves will often try to misrepresent their vehicles as utility company vehicles or other service trucks.

These thefts not only cost the city money and time, they are leaving many parks without lighting, causing safety hazards and limiting park activities. Thank you for helping to prevent vandalism.

**Adopt-A-Trail.** The Glendale Parks and Recreation Department is inviting hikers, equestrian riders, mountain bikers and others to attend an initial meeting introducing the new Adopt-A-Trail program. This short meeting will allow potential volunteers to ask questions and help us determine the level of interest in helping to protect and maintain our trails.

Join us at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 1 in the Bobcat Room of the Foothills Recreation and Aquatics Center, 5600 W. Union Hills Dr. If you are unable to make the meeting, but are interested in participating or becoming a team leader, please call (623) 930-2639.

The program will begin with Thunderbird Conservation Park and is expected to grow to other parks and trails in Glendale's park system. [click here](#) for more information.

## Around Town

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[Click here](#) for the City Council meeting schedule. [Click here](#) for past Council meeting agendas and minutes. [Click here](#) to watch a City Council meeting online.

**Authors @ the Teague.** Arizona author Susan Pohlman will discuss and sign her new book, "Halfway to Each Other: How a Year in Italy Brought Our Family Home," during the upcoming Authors @ the Teague event at 2 p.m. on Saturday, January 22, at Velma Teague Branch Library, 7010 N. 58th Ave. The program is free. Books will be available for purchase and signing. For more information, please call 623-930-3439.

**Annual Arizona Songwriters Gathering.** The 15th Annual Arizona Songwriters Gathering will be held at the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St., on Saturday, January 22. The free event runs from 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and includes live music performances throughout the day. Workshops on crafting songs, getting songs into film and TV, using social media to further a career in music, and song critique sessions will also be offered. For more information, call 623-930-3573.

**Coffeehouse.** Acoustic music lovers are welcome to the Main Library Coffeehouse in the Auditorium at 6:30 p.m., on the third Thursday of the month. On February 17, Tom Whitlock and Desert City Ramblers will perform. Videos of these performers are available at <http://www.youtube.com>. For more information, call 623-930-3573.

**2011 Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award Nominations.** The city of Glendale Historic Preservation Commission is accepting nominations for the 16th Annual Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award.

The prestigious Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award was developed by the Historic Preservation Commission to recognize outstanding contributions by individuals and organizations to historic preservation initiatives in the city of Glendale. The award is named after Ruth Byrne, who has made significant contributions to historic preservation in the city of Glendale. Ruth served on the Historic Preservation Commission and is past president of the Glendale Arizona Historical Society. For more details, including submittal information and to download a nomination form, [click here](#).

**Save the Date.** The Glendale Family Bike Ride has been scheduled for Sunday, April 14, 2011 at Sahuaro Ranch Park. [Check here](#) for photos from last year's event. More information coming soon.

**Contact Councilmember Lieberman**  
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